

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A navigation apparatus comprising:

a display part having a display screen;

character data storing means for storing character data
5 including plural types of fonts with respect to each
character in order to display characters on a road map in the
display screen; and

display control means for obtaining road map data and
displaying, on the basis of the obtained road map data, a
10 road map in the display screen,

wherein the display control means reads character data
of a font type corresponding to a category of an object to be
indicated by the characters displayed on the road map out of
the character data storing means and displays the character
15 data on the road map.

2. The navigation apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
the road map data includes coordinate data for indicating a
position of the characters to be displayed, class data for
indicating the category of the object represented by the
20 characters, and code data for indicating the characters, and
wherein the display control means has storing means for
storing a relation between the class data and the font type,
and displays the characters of the font type corresponding to
the category of the object on the road map, on the basis of
25 the coordinate data, class data, and code data.

3. The navigation apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a
user is capable of changing the relation between the class
data and the font type.

4. The navigation apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the road map data includes coordinate data for indicating a position of the characters to be displayed, class data for indicating the category of the object represented by the characters, code data for indicating the characters, and font data for indicating the font type for the characters, and wherein the display control means displays the characters of the font type corresponding to the category of the object on the road map, on the basis of the coordinate data, class data, code data and font data.

5. A navigation apparatus comprising:

a display part having a display screen;

character data storing means for storing character data including plural types of fonts with respect to each character to be displayed; and,

display control means for differentiating a font type for the characters indicating an operating item to be highlighted from a font type for the characters indicating remaining operating items, when various kinds of operating items for operating the navigation apparatus are displayed in the display screen by using the plural types of fonts stored in the character data storing means.

6. The navigation apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the operating items are for setting on-state and off-state of functions of the navigation apparatus, and the display control means highlights the characters in the operating item corresponding to the function set to the on-state.

7. The navigation apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the display control means uses a font type having bolder lines for the characters in the operating item corresponding

to the function set to the on-state.

8. The navigation apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the font type used for highlighting the characters is capable of being determined by a user.

5 9. The navigation apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the operating items are for displaying names of objects to be selected, and the display control means highlights the characters representing an object name in the operating item with which a cursor matches among the operating items.

10 10. The navigation apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the display control means uses a font type having bolder lines for the characters in the operating item with which the cursor matches.

15 11. The navigation apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the font type used for highlighting the characters is capable of being determined by a user.